

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING CONTENT ACCESS
CONTROLS TO ACCESS THE INTERNET**

ABSTRACT

An Internet access control system is defined using a client-server
5 architecture. The computer program installed on the client computer
validates/identifies the user and user specific information is passed to the
client computer. All user requests to access the Internet are intercepted by an
application executing on the client computer. The URL extracted from the
internet access request is sent to the Internet access control web server to
10 determine if the URL is in a master list of previously evaluated websites. If
the URL is found, the website ratings and subject matter categories are sent
to the client computer for determination of whether or not the website contains
information appropriate for the user attempting to access the Internet using
web access settings defined by, for example, a parent or employer. If the
15 URL is determined to be appropriate, the Internet access request is sent to
the computer networking layer to which the request was originally routed;
otherwise, the Internet access request is edited and is sent to the computer
networking layer to which the request was originally routed for redirection of
the transmission request.